

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPекторS

OF THE

STATE ALMSHOUSE,

AT

TEWKSBURY.

OCTOBER, 1865.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS.

No. 4 SPRING LANE.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

To His Excellency, JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Honorable Council.

The Inspectors of the State Almshouse at Tewksbury would respectfully present their Twelfth Annual Report.

Annexed will be found the Reports of the Superintendent, Physician, and Chaplain, which will give a plain exhibit of the institution for the current year, and which we commend to your careful consideration.

The schools have been under the judicious management of the Principal, Rev. Charles F. Foster, and his three assistants. We believe that the children in the schools of this institution are better trained, mentally, morally and physically, and under as good discipline, as the mass of the children of this Commonwealth. The whole number of children in the institution, between the ages of five and fifteen years, on the first day of May last, was one hundred and fifty-four. The whole number of all ages in the schools at the same date was one hundred and fifty-two. We have made a return of the number of scholars, and other facts required by law to be returned by school committees of towns, so far as we could do so, to the Secretary of the Board of Education. That gentleman made our schools a visit in 1864; and we hope that he will again visit us during the current year. The schools are in such con-

dition that we should be as pleased to exhibit them to every parent in the Commonwealth as to your Excellency and the Honorable Council; and doubt not that, could these be exhibited to the masses of the people, they would admit that these children improve their advantages as well, and that they will not suffer in comparison with those more highly favored, of the same age, in any part of the Commonwealth.

During the year, water from a new source has been introduced into the institution. Last year the electric engine used for raising water from the brook failed us entirely. The question whether the water from this brook, which held the washings of Lee's tannery, and the drainage from our whole establishment, was as pure as the health of the inmates demanded, had been often raised and discussed in our Board. Having tried with entire failure to supply the institution from that source, and finding it necessary to make a change in power, we caused to be analyzed the water from the source whence the institution was originally supplied,—from Round Pond, west of the institution, and from "Strong Water Brook," above its junction with Round Pond Brook; and also higher on the stream than where the drainage of the establishment enters this brook. The analysis of this water showed it pure, containing only 3.15 grains of residuum to the imperial gallon, and that mostly organic. A well was dug within a few feet of "Strong Water Brook," and the water is filtered through the sand. This well affords an ample supply of pure, cool water, which is forced by one of Knowles' Steam Pumps, No. 7, through iron pipes to the institution. We were obliged to use about six hundred feet of additional iron pipe to reach the water at the aforesaid place.

Under the superintendence of a commission appointed by a Resolve of the legislature of the year 1864, chapter 80, a building is being erected on our grounds for the accommodation of one hundred harmless insane paupers, which will be ready for occupancy, with the exception of heating and equipping, about the 15th of November next.*

The erection of this building on our grounds rendered necessary the removal of several of the smaller buildings, and nearly all the vaults of the whole establishment. A part of one building we have removed to the boys' yard, and devoted exclusively to the accommodation of the boys and the shoe depart-

ment. The other part has been removed to the girls' yard, and is for the accommodation of the girls, and the sewing, knitting, hat and bonnet braiding and shoe-binding department. The building formerly occupied by the insane women has been removed from its original location, and when the arrangements are completed, will be occupied by the laboring men.

The fence around the institution and the partition fences had become so dilapidated that it was necessary to rebuild the same. This we are now doing. As considerable addition was rendered necessary for the accommodation of the inmates of the new building, we think a part of the expense of erecting fences and removing the clothes-yard, buildings and vaults, is fairly chargeable to the appropriation made for erecting the new building. When the whole is completed, the men, the boys, and the insane men will each have separate yards; and the women, the girls, and the insane women the same. The boys formerly took their meals with the men, and the girls with the women. This has also been changed, so that the boys and girls now sit at the same table, separate from the adults. These changes we regard as decided improvements on the former arrangements, because the boys and girls will be much less exposed to the contaminating influences of those older in "sin and misery."

Some time in the summer we found that the bottom had fallen out of our slaughter-house, which rendered necessary the renewal of the flooring of the building. Being straitened for room, we removed a partition, and enlarged our accommodations. In connection with these repairs, we have put in one of Sandford's large refrigerators; so that we can preserve in the hottest weather for days, and weeks even, if necessary, the meat of any animals slaughtered; and can also have the same corned and preserved with the same safety as can be done in cooler weather. This we regard as a great improvement, both for convenience and economy.

During the last year the tubs in the wash-room became so leaky, and so much out of repair, that it was evident the room must be entirely refitted. After making inquiries of those who had made use of washing machines and wringers, we decided to procure one of each, and having done so, we are highly pleased with the result. We believe the wear and tear of

clothes by this method will be diminished more than ten per cent., and that for such an establishment it is the most economical way in which washing can be done. The outlay at first is large; but the saving of labor, and the importance of having clothing promptly cleansed and ready for any emergency will abundantly compensate.

The older boys have been employed during the year in shoe-making. They attend the morning session of school, and are employed in the afternoons in the shoe-shop. They study with more zeal, and work with a zest that shows they have an interest in their employment, and that they mean to fit themselves for their trade, and to be men among those they may meet in after life. The experiment of employing the children—training them to habits of industry, instead of putting them under the care of those who generally take them for profit merely—has more than realized, far exceeded our most sanguine expectations. Besides supplying the institution with shoes, they have manufactured many cases for the market, which have paid a handsome profit. The older girls are also employed in the afternoons in making their own and the boys' clothing, braiding hats and bonnets, and also in binding shoes. While they are thus fitting themselves to gain a livelihood, they make as rapid proficiency in their studies as most who attend two sessions a day.

The farm has been under the management of Mr. Poor for several years. The crops maturing in the early part of the season, have been good, while those coming later have suffered badly from the long and severe drouth. During the autumn we cleared about ten acres of land from bushes and stumps, and this spring planted the same with potatoes. It was a light, sandy soil, and the crop has suffered from the dry weather. The men and teams were employed in the winter in filling and raising a meadow with sand from a bank in the vicinity. This will furnish employment for the men and teams the coming winter, and when completed, will be a valuable addition to our farm.

The inventory has been taken by David Bryant, Esq., of Boston, who took the same last year, and who has also taken the same at the other State Almshouses, and at Rainsford Island Hospital the present year.

We have appointed a nurse for the male hospital, one of whose duties it is to see that the medicines prescribed by the Physician are properly dispensed. This office is now holden by Mr. W. C. Tracy, a student of Dr. Brown. Hitherto this has been intrusted to some of the inmates. Miss Winsby discharges similar duties in the female hospital. The health of the inmates for the year has been good; no epidemic has prevailed. The mortality among the infants, the insane, and the broken-down constitutions, is large; but when we consider that all the foundlings of nearly all the large cities of the Commonwealth are sent to this institution, and that everything that is vile and has no settlement, here finds an asylum for recuperation or its last resting place, the reason is obvious.

We would call the attention of your Excellency and the honorable Council to the importance of having, in an establishment like this,—where so much diseased humanity must congregate, and where all “the ills that flesh is heir to” are seen,—a hospital isolated from the other buildings. We think it is due to both the sick and the well, that they be separate one from the other.

Again we would urge on your notice the fact that no law exists by which we can retain the lazy, idle and vicious, who come here to be supported and recruited for a time, that they may, when recruited, go back to their old habits and vices, only to again come back more diseased and debased than before. We believe that it would be a blessing to many, who come here through their indulgences and debaucheries, to be retained till in part they could recompense the Commonwealth, which is their only friend when all others have forsaken them. We think the State should protect its own interests by some provision of law touching this matter, especially when it may be done with no injury, but with positive good to the subject. Pauperism in itself, we admit, is no crime, but pauperism engendered by vice and abuse, is so near of kin to it, that the State may with propriety cause the parties dependent and recruited to give their services for a time, thus holding them within a reforming influence, and at least, putting farther off the day of final ruin.

To the Superintendent, and his corps of assistants, we are under obligations for the faithful manner in which they have

discharged their duties to the institution and the State, and also for their uniform courtesy towards ourselves.

In the blessings vouchsafed to the institution, hitherto, we would recognize the hand of Him who "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," trusting that He who is the "Father of the fatherless," will continue to smile on this and the other noble charities of the good old Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HORACE P. WAKEFIELD,
F. H. NOURSE,
GEO. P. ELLIOT,

Inspectors.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, October 2, 1865.

Agreeably to the statutes of the Commonwealth, the following table is presented :—

Live Stock, . . . . .	. . . . .	\$9,490 64
Carriages and Agricultural Implements, . . . . .	. . . . .	2,559 68
Mechanical Tools and Machinery, . . . . .	. . . . .	12,691 77
Beds and Bedding, . . . . .	. . . . .	12,584 35
Other Property, . . . . .	. . . . .	6,221 77
Personal Property in Superintendent's Department, . . . . .	. . . . .	6,168 52
Ready-made Clothing, . . . . .	. . . . .	6,393 33
Dry Goods, . . . . .	. . . . .	1,518 10
Provisions and Groceries, . . . . .	. . . . .	7,234 58
Drugs and Medicines, . . . . .	. . . . .	597 65
Fuel, . . . . .	. . . . .	2,438 26
Library, . . . . .	. . . . .	333 33
Products of the Farm on hand, . . . . .	. . . . .	8,250 75
		<hr/>
		\$76,482 73
Real Estate, . . . . .	. . . . .	\$110,327 15

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true Schedule and Appraisal of the Personal Property and Real Estate at the State Almshouse at Tewksbury, belonging to the State, Sept. 30, 1865. The Appraisal was made by me, and is correct, according to my best judgment.

(Signed)

DAVID BRYANT, *Appraiser.*

Then personally appeared before me David Bryant, and made oath that the above Schedule and Appraisal is correct, according to his best knowledge and belief.

Tewksbury, Middlesex, ss. Subscribed and sworn to before me.

(Signed)

T. J. MARSH, *Justice of the Peace.*

There has been paid as follows, for

SALARIES.

Horace P. Wakefield, (<i>Inspector,</i>) one year,	\$160 00
Francis H. Nourse, (<i>Inspector,</i>) one year,	160 00
George P. Elliot, (<i>Inspector,</i>) one year,	160 00
	<hr/>
	\$480 00

OFFICERS.

Thomas J. Marsh, and wife, (<i>Superintendent and Matron,</i>)		
one year,		\$1,500 00
Jonathan Brown, (<i>Physician,</i>) one year,		900 00
Elisha Huntington, (<i>Consulting Physician,</i>) one year,		100 00
Thomas J. Marsh, Jr., and wife, (<i>Assistant Superintendent, Clerk and Seamstress,</i>) one year,		600 00
Charles F. Foster and wife, (<i>Chaplain and Teachers,</i>) one year,		575 00
Henry J. Moulton, (<i>Assistant Clerk,</i>) from November 5th, 1864, to October 1, 1865,		271 32
James Poor, (<i>Farmer,</i>) one year,		420 00
Thaddeus P. Bartlett and wife, (<i>Watchman and Nurse,</i>) one year,		400 00
Samuel L. Furness, (<i>Engineer,</i>) from October 1, 1864, to March 17, 1865,		276 67
Simon B. Adams, (<i>Engineer,</i>) from April 1, 1865, to October 1, 1865,		289 98
Charles H. Trull and wife, (<i>Assistant Farmer and Laundress,</i>) one year,		466 91
Martha B. Marsh, (<i>Dairymaid,</i>) one year,		156 00
Sarah A. Winsby, (<i>Nurse,</i>) one year,		156 00
Jennie B. Dearborn, (<i>Teacher,</i>) from October 1, 1864, to June 1, 1865,		105 73
Fannie L. Crosby, (<i>Teacher,</i>) from March 6, 1865, to October 1, 1865,		89 92
Sophia L. Larken, (<i>Teacher,</i>) from June 15, 1865, to October 1, 1865,		45 50
Helen M. Marsh, (<i>Seamstress,</i>) one year,		156 00
Abraham S. Barnard, (<i>Cook,</i>) one year,		300 00
George G. Spofford, (<i>Teamster,</i>) one year,		300 00
Augustus F. Whidden, (<i>Instructing Boys in Shoemaking,</i>) one year,		419 83
Abel G. Whidden, (<i>Instructing Boys in Shoemaking,</i>) one year,		354 23

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse, at Tewksbury:

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit the Twelfth Annual Report of this institution, and the eighth which it has been my duty to prepare. Accompanying it are the usual statistical and financial details, which have been prepared with unusual care, and which present an accurate account of our transactions for the year, together with the present condition of the institution.

The year that has passed, unlike any preceding it, save one, has brought with it unusual cares and anxieties. The great rise in the cost of all necessary articles of consumption, as well as in the transportation of merchandise and passengers, has made it almost impossible to support our population of seven hundred and thirty-two, at anything like the average price of preceding years. But while the cost of supporting the institution has exceeded anything in its history, I am happy to say that you have been freely consulted in nearly all of the important purchases, and have been cognizant of the economy with which the articles purchased have been used.

While all of us are aware of the large expenditure made, it has been our united and constant effort to exercise the strictest economy, consistent with the health of those committed to our charge.

The contract made with Messrs. Crosby and Drown for doing the teaming of materials for the new building, has caused the purchasing of extra horses, at an expense of five hundred dollars, which will be reimbursed by the cash paid for services performed. In fact, the whole expense of labor done upon that building is now embraced in the amount drawn from the State treasury, and is included in the cost for support of inmates and the running expenses of the institution.

The products of the farm have been quite satisfactory. The crops maturing early were abundant, while the late ones, notwithstanding the severe drouth of the three months past, will be far better than we had any reason to anticipate.

The work upon the farm has been mainly performed by a few old men and the harmless insane.

Hitherto complaints have not unfrequently been made, in certain quarters, that a class of persons, who are capable of taking care of themselves, have been supported in the almshouse at the public expense. If this has ever been true, I think an inspection of the almshouses now, by the most inveterate haters of the system, will force them to the conclusion that the present adult occupants are legitimate subjects for the benefactions of the Commonwealth. There is a practice prevailing in some of our cities and towns, to which I wish to call your attention, namely: that of sending legitimate and illegitimate infants and young children to the almshouse without their mothers, the children to die, while the mothers go at large, not unfrequently spending their time in licentious and intemperate indulgences. Only yesterday one was sent from a city near at hand, where the overseers absolutely refused to send the child to their own almshouse, unless the mother went with it. I wish to call your attention again to the difficulties existing, as stated last year, “resulting, *first*, from the want of a specific power duly limited by law, to retain inmates claiming their discharge, when such a step would not only be inexpedient but a positive injury to the individual and community; *second*, from the absence of any legal power to reclaim or punish absconding inmates; and *third*, from the omission of the law to punish the desertion of infants by their unnatural mothers. The silence of the statutes on these three points is not only prejudicial to the discipline of the almshouses, but imposes a heavy burden upon their superintendents and supervisors. Furthermore, it adds greatly to the cares and annoyances of the municipal authorities, and is the source of serious loss to the State.”

The general health of the house has been good. No epidemic has prevailed, and though the bill of mortality shows about the usual amount of deaths, they have been of children

deserted by their unnatural mothers, and persons brought here in the last stages of disease.

The school, under the judicious training of the Rev. Mr. Foster, its principal, and his faithful assistants, is making rapid progress in all the branches of an English education. Never in the history of the school has it stood so high as it does to-day.

By the report of the Chaplain, it will be seen that the average number of children attending school through the year has been one hundred and seventy. The education and employment of these children the present year, as in the past, has claimed and received no inconsiderable portion of our care and attention. Quite a majority of the children are boys. Among the oldest of these a number have been supported by the Commonwealth, wholly or in part, for several years. Having arrived at the age when such children are usually apprenticed, or placed in families to be cared for, an experiment was commenced, as was stated in our report of last year, to employ them here a portion of the day at labor, and to allow them to pass a portion of the time in school, with the hope, if possible, of fitting them to become useful and intelligent citizens. As we then stated, we had the approval of the Board of State Charities in this course. These boys have been employed during the past year in manual labor, under the care of faithful and competent instructors, with profit to themselves, and a pecuniary gain to the institution.

I am aware that the opinion has obtained, that children from ten to twelve years and upwards can be better cared for in such families as usually desire them, than if they were allowed to remain at the institution. The reason urged for thus disposing of them is, that they may be placed where better and purer influences can be brought to bear upon them. I do not question the integrity of purpose of those who thus argue. For myself, however, after an experience of seven or eight years, having been a close observer of the results, I come to another, and quite a different conclusion.

A distinguished jurist, recently discussing this topic, has said, "that except in cases of unquestioned preference, this care and guardianship should be exercised directly by the State, or under its supervision, and not intrusted to isolated families under any form of apprenticeship or adoption, too often, when unguarded, a civilized cloak for real slavery and degradation."

He also makes other suggestions, equally valuable, concerning the care and treatment of the children of the State. We have the facilities here for instructing the boys in several of the useful mechanical trades, as also in practical farming, and should be very happy, when the Agricultural College is ready for occupancy, to furnish a portion of its students from our institution. What I have said in reference to the boys will apply equally to the older girls, they, too, being employed a portion of the time in sewing, knitting, binding shoes, and braiding straw. Under the instruction of a competent teacher, they make quite satisfactory progress, and at the same time appear to make as good progress in their studies as if they attended school two sessions a day.

In closing I desire to make favorable mention of the services rendered by the officers of the institution; to express my thanks for your own cordial co-operation and sympathy in the labors of my position; and especially to acknowledge the providential care and guidance of Him, without whose notice "not a sparrow falls to the ground."

THOMAS J. MARSH, *Superintendent.*

STATEMENT No. 1.

Statistics of Inmates.

Number in the house at the commencement of the year,	648
Admitted during the year,	1,650
Discharged,	1,661
Supported,	2,298
Births,	57
Deaths,	192
Weekly average,	732
Present number,	637

Of the 1,650 admitted during the year, there were from

Boston,	605
Lowell,	192
Tewksbury,	158
Lawrence,	142
Charlestown,	65
Salem,	58
Born in house,	57
Lynn,	53
Cambridge,	44
Newburyport,	29
Taunton Lunatic Hospital,	23
Woburn,	16
Chelsea,	14
Worcester Lunatic Hospital and Waltham, 13 each,	26
Northampton Lunatic Hospital, Andover, Gloucester, and Somerville, 11 each,	44
South Danvers,	10
Haverhill,	9
Concord, Fitchburg, and Newton, 7 each,	21
Holliston, Watertown, and West Cambridge, 5 each,	15
Lexington, Malden, Medford, North Andover, and Reading, 4 each,	20
Marblehead, Marlborough, and Methuen, 3 each,	9
Beverly, Danvers, Dracut, Framingham, Groton, Ipswich, Melrose, Natick, and Topsfield, 2 each,	18
Acton, American Asylum for Deaf and Dumb, (Hartford,) Belmont, Boxborough, Boxford, Bradford, Chelmsford, Georgetown, Groveland, Hamilton, Hopkinton, Littleton, Pepperell, Perkins' Institution for the Blind, (South Boston,) Rockport, Saugus, Sherborn, South Reading, State Industrial School (Lancaster,) Stoneham, Tyngsborough, and Westford, 1 each,	22

The following table shows the number admitted each month, age when admitted, and sex :—

MONTHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Under 10.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Between 50 and 60.	Between 60 and 70.	Between 70 and 80.	Over 80.
October, . . .	98	55	43	25	6	16	18	12	9	9	3	-
November, . . .	148	77	71	39	27	17	23	16	12	10	3	1
December, . . .	287	138	149	69	31	57	44	41	28	11	5	1
January, . . .	109	59	50	32	17	18	14	12	4	8	3	1
February, . . .	69	33	36	19	5	10	12	10	9	4	-	-
March, . . .	73	31	42	22	11	15	10	5	7	2	-	1
April, . . .	77	40	37	20	10	16	12	5	5	6	1	2
May, . . .	172	83	89	43	29	38	17	20	14	4	6	1
June, . . .	163	83	80	40	22	32	24	16	12	12	4	1
July, . . .	133	75	58	23	19	31	15	16	8	11	5	5
August, . . .	107	67	40	27	8	18	22	13	10	4	5	-
September, . . .	214	102	112	68	24	47	28	19	11	9	4	4
Totals, . . .	1,650	843	807	427	209	315	239	185	129	90	39	17

STATEMENT No. 2.

Nativity of Inmates.

At sea, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, and Wales, 3 each,	18
Georgia, Italy, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South America, South Carolina, and Spain, 2 each,	20
Alabama, District of Columbia, Isle of Malta, Norway, Ohio, Por- tugal, Sweden, Switzerland, West Indies, and Western Islands, 1 each,	10
	<hr/>
	1,650

S T A T E M E N T N o . 3 .

Account of Purchases.

Barley, 8 bushels,	\$14 00
Beans, 327 $\frac{5}{6}\frac{6}{2}$ bushels,	866 68
Beef, (fresh,) 7 beeves, 9,266 pounds,	1,311 63
Beef, (salt,) 168 barrels,	2,430 80
Books, newspapers, postage, and stationery,	268 56
Swine,	20 85
Brooms, 30 dozen,	154 50
Candles, 41 pounds,	10 60
Caps, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	59 00
Cement, 3 casks,	11 50
Charcoal, 2 barrels,	1 50
Cheese, 79 $\frac{3}{16}$ pounds,	20 35
Coal, 816 tons, 18 cwt.,	8,245 86
Coffee, 348 pounds,	103 24
Corn, 2,204 $\frac{3}{5}\frac{2}{6}$ bushels,	2,749 11
Crockery,	196 94
Dry Goods,	6,839 52
Eggs, 126 dozen,	39 54
Flour, 1,350 barrels,	14,455 00
Fish, (fresh,) 8,605 pounds,	278 04
Fish, (salt,) 29,830 pounds,	1,474 28
Fruit and vegetables,	40 56
Furniture,	164 31
Glassware,	69 50
Groceries,	331 17
Hardware,	214 03
Hay, (English,) 241 $\frac{8}{20}\frac{9}{10}$ tons,	673 09
Hay, (meadow,) 68 $\frac{6}{20}\frac{24}{10}$ tons,	828 79
Hay, (salt,) 13 $\frac{22}{20}\frac{5}{10}$ tons,	276 21
Hops, 446 pounds,	183 70
Horses, 1 pair,	500 00
Labor,	926 51
Lead, 200 pounds,	29 50
Lime, 13 casks, 20 bushels,	55 45
Lumber,	918 62

Malt, 6 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$16 00
Meal, (bolted,) 14 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	15 40
Meal, (cotton seed,) $6\frac{4}{200}\frac{13}{6}$ tons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	283 33
Meal, (Indian,) 6 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	11 30
Meats and provisions,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	744 08
Medicines,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	980 79
Milch cows and calves, 29 cows, 16 calves,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,831 00
Molasses, 3,840 gallons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,530 67
Oats, 538 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	543 96
Oil, $543\frac{3}{4}$ gallons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	741 89
Oxen, 3 pairs, 1 head,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	635 00
Paints, oils, and colors,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	50 16
Palm leaf, 179 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25 26
Pepper, 175 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	75 00
Plaster, 1 eask, 5,215 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	34 49
Potatoes, $905\frac{2}{3}$ bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	643 69
Repairs,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,160 21
Ryc, $1002\frac{7}{6}$ bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	155 61
Salaries,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8,363 09
Salt, 52 sacks, 12 hogsheads, 15 bushels, and 1 barrel,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	216 19
Seeds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	83 22
Shoe stock, machinery, and tools,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6,622 88
Shorts, $23\frac{1}{2}3\frac{3}{5}\frac{5}{6}$ tons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,154 22
Smith work,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	165 78
Soap stock, 27 casks, 3,059 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	829 74
Starch, 391 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	49 82
Straw, $7\frac{1}{2}0\frac{0}{0}$ tons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	94 13
Sugar, 4,305 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	876 73
Surgical instruments,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26 70
Tea, 408 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	452 65
Tin plate, 5 boxes, 24 sheets,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	120 40
Tobacco, 342 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	94 78
Tools, (agricultural,)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	288 98
Tools, (mechanical,) and machinery,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,441 39
Transportation of freight,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,021 35
Transportation of passengers,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	369 23
Turnips, 490 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	123 25
Vinegar, 782 gallons,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	207 72
Wood, 123 cords,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	301 08
Wooden-ware,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	63 00
									<hr/> \$81,207 11

S T A T E M E N T N o . 4 .

Estimated amount of Produce raised on Farm.

\$12,727.76.

THE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
in account with THOMAS J. MARSH,
Superintendent.
STATEMENT No. 5.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS in account with THOMAS J. MARSH, Superintendent. Cr.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS in account with THOMAS J. MARSH.—Concluded.

Cr.

THOMAS J. MARSH, *Superintendent.*

This is to certify that we have examined the above account of Thomas J. Marsh with the Commonwealth, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

HORACE P. WAKEFIELD, F. H. NOURSE,
GEO. P. ELLIOT, *Inspectors.*

STATEMENT No. 6.

Inventory of property on hand October 1, 1864, as appraised by David Bryant, Esq.,	\$68,056 65
Cash on hand, October 1, 1864,	3,393 13
Cash received from State Treasurer,	81,207 11
	<hr/>
	\$152,656 89
Inventory of property on hand October 1, 1865, as appraised by the same appraiser,	\$76,482 73
Cash on hand,	11,605 24
Amount due for goods sold,	<hr/> 492 00
	<hr/> 88,579 97
Total cost for the year,	\$64,076 92
Dividing by 732, the average weekly number, we have as the cost of each inmate for the year,	\$87 53½
Dividing by 52, we have the average weekly cost,	1 68½

The amount thus assessed upon the inmates, and assumed as the cost of their support, really includes much more than the expense of their maintenance. All the permanent improvements, as well as ordinary repairs, and large sums expended for labor-saving machinery, are embraced in the above aggregates. Should these be deducted, the average weekly cost would fall a little short of one dollar and fifty cents.

STATEMENT No. 7.—*Shoe Account.*

Dr.

Cr.

	1865.	1865.	1865.	
Sept 30	To cash paid for upper leather, " for sole leather, " for linings, " for canvas duck, " for bindings, " " for 49½ lbs. thread, " " for 41½ lbs. nails, " " for tacks, " " for 92 gross cotton laces, " " for 24 bunches Lea laces, " " for 3½ bushels pegs, " " for 13 grls. dressing, " " for 13 packages eyeclets, " " for 3 lbs. Gum Tragacanth, " " for findings, " " for labor, To amount of shoes on sale as per Statement No. 6 of 1864,	\$1,867 29 3,067 45 715 88 147 49 122 00 113 17 79 75 22 66 60 01 18 20 5 40 14 10 42 88 4 10 17 40 77 4 06 960 00 \$8,031 84	Sept. 30, By cash received from sales, 480 pairs children's shoes, unsold, at 65c, 120 pairs women's shoes, unsold, at \$1.50, excess in appraisal of stock and shoes for 1865 over that of 1864, Balance—Cost of shoes for house the cur- rent year,	\$5,793 20 312 00 180 00 485 53 1,261 11 \$8,031 84

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse at Tewksbury :

GENTLEMEN,—It has become my duty to present to you the Twelfth Annual Report of the sanitary condition of this institution.

During the year just closed, we have had no epidemic disease to contend with, and but little sickness among the children. The class of people that have, in a great measure, supplied our sick wards with patients, have been much the same as those referred to in my last report, “old people, broken-down constitutions, and imbeciles.”

The number of foundlings and deserted infants received, has been less than last year. We have admitted about the usual number in the last stages of fatal disease. Intemperance and licentiousness, as heretofore, have furnished, directly and indirectly, nearly all of our paupers, and a large portion of our cases of sickness.

The records, for the past year, show thirteen hundred and fifty-five cases of sickness, one hundred and ninety-two deaths, and sixty-five births, of which forty-five were illegitimate. For further particulars, I would call your attention to the accompanying tables, numbered from one to four inclusive.

I desire to acknowledge the valuable counsel and assistance rendered in this department, during my illness and consequent absence from duty, by Dr. Huntington, consulting physician to the institution, Dr. Butterfield, of Lowell, and Dr. Presbrey, of Taunton. To Dr. Tracy, Miss Winsby and Mrs. Bartlett, also, I am under obligations, for the zeal and efficiency manifested in their several fields of labor.

With much respect, I remain,
Your most obedient servant,

JONATHAN BROWN, *Physician.*

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
October 2, 1865. }

TABLE No. 1,

Show ing the No. of Cases of Sickness in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, from October 1, 1864, to September 30, 1865, with the No. for each Month, and the Names of the Principal Diseases; also the Average No. on the Sick List, for the Year, and for each Month.

TABLE No. 2,

Showing the Causes of Death, the Whole Number, the Sex, the Mental Condition, the Number in each Month, and the Ages of those who have Died in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, from October 1, 1861, to September 30, 1865; also, the Whole Number since the opening of the Institution.

Over 80.

[Oct.]

TABLE NO. 3.

Showing the Number of Births in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, during each Month, from October 1, 1864, to September 30, 1865, with a Statement of the Sex, and whether Illegitimate, Twins, or Stillborn, the Birth-place of the Mothers, and the whole Number since the opening of the Institution.

TABLE No. 4,

Showing the Number of Illegitimate Children born in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, from October 1, 1859, to September 30, 1865, with the Birth-places of their Mothers, and the per cent. of Illegitimate, to the Whole Number of Births in the house for each year.

Y E A R S .	Illegitimate.			Birth-place of Mothers of Illegitimate Children.					Whole number of Births in the house.	Per cent. of Illegitimate Children.
	Total.	Males.	Females.	U. States.	Ireland.	England.	Br. Prov.	Other Countries.		
1859-60, . .	48	23	25	11	30	3	2	2	66	.72
1860-61, . .	46	26	20	10	30	2	3	1	65	.70
1861-2, . .	45	22	23	9	30	3	3	-	63	.70
1862-3, . .	50	30	20	12	25	2	8	3	67	.74
1863-4, . .	49	27	22	10	32	1	4	2	73	.67
1864-5, . .	45	21	24	14	22	1	8	-	65	.69
Totals, .	283	149	134	66	169	12	28	8	399	.70+

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of State Almshouse at Tewksbury:

GENTLEMEN,—The prescribed work of the Chaplain is essentially the same from year to year. According to the terms of his appointment, he is to preach once on the Sabbath, and converse with the sick who may desire his visitations. But beyond this routine of official duties, there is an indefinite field of labor, crowded with minor services suggested by the sort of pastoral relation involved. Such continually occurring opportunities for usefulness, sometimes improved, but oftener under the present arrangement overlooked in the more immediate pressure of the duties of the school-room, constitute, in fact, a part of the responsible work of the Chaplain. No figures, therefore, can afford an exact report of the service needed, the means employed, or the results obtained in this department.

I have preached to the inmates forty-seven times, the past year. On the remaining Sabbaths, with one exception, the desk has been supplied by exchange. The Sabbath school, with its previous interesting and encouraging features, and the evening service, have been continued. The school-room is used for these purposes in place of a chapel. The attendance upon public worship is as good as could be expected under the circumstances. Those who come in, do so voluntarily, and the room is generally well filled. If suitable accommodations were provided, so that all in the institution who are able to be present might not only be invited, but required to attend public worship, the congregation would be more than doubled, and the chances of accomplishing good through the preaching of the Word would be commensurately increased. There are, indeed, many who, it would be vain to expect, will ever become receptive hearers.

There are the demented and the imbecile, as well as the morally stubborn and obtuse. The prejudices of the greater part of those who have been in the habit of attending religious service with us, are against that very word of life on which all our teaching is based. Yet in many respects a hopeful field remains. By holding up to view, repeatedly, the hideousness of sin and the degradation and destitution to which it leads, as illustrated daily before us, and by portraying in contrast the life of subservience to the will of God, through faith in a divine Redeemer, possibly some hallowed impression may be made ; but of this we shall know only hereafter. If the tide of ignorance and consequent evil setting in upon us with every fresh arrival, can be so met and controlled by the appliances of truth, that there shall be less danger of moral contamination here than among the poor outside, and if some good influences can go forth with those who leave us, there is ground for encouragement. Some of the inmates have expressed their determination to relinquish bad habits, and on going out have taken the pledge to abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks. While it remains an undeniable fact that nine-tenths of the adults in the almshouses are kept in poverty through intemperance and kindred vices, no further stimulus is needed to engage the philanthropic and Christian heart in effort for the religious instruction and moral elevation of this class of people.

One of the most effectual ways of accomplishing these results is by the circulation of books and papers. A good library is much needed for the sick in the hospitals, and for those whose age or infirmities do not permit them to labor. All who desire it are furnished with a Bible. Several copies have been given to the children as rewards, and they appear to be prized. Many chapters have been committed to memory, and the facts and precepts of Scripture are made familiar to the youthful mind by Sabbath school instruction.

In close relation to this part of the work is the management of the schools, of which a brief report may here be given. There are two departments, graded according to the capacity of the rooms in which the sessions are held. The higher department is under the immediate care of the Chaplain and wife, assisted by Miss Sophia Larkin. The Primary School is under the instruction of Miss Fannie Crosby, and comprises about fifty

scholars. Thirty or more of the larger boys and girls are employed a part of each day in manual labor. These average three hours per day in school. The smaller children average four and a half hours per day. The whole number of scholars that have received instruction here during the past year is 333. The average attendance has been 170.

The intellectual capacity of these children is certainly not below mediocrity, however much their previous education may have been neglected; and the ardor with which many of them take hold of study, advancing rapidly from class to class, is truly gratifying. One cannot fail to acquire an enthusiasm in the work of instructing such eager minds. Fifty scholars are at present practised in written arithmetic, a branch which, we are inclined to think, is not brought to the notice of children at a sufficiently early age. Four dozen copies of Eaton's Common School Arithmetic are in use by us. Two boys have gone through this, and are now solving problems in algebra. There are three large classes in geography and grammar. Besides these studies, a general view of miscellaneous topics connected with the sciences has been given to the older pupils by the Principal in familiar talks in school hours, or at pleasant gatherings for instruction and recreation in the winter evenings. It is the desire of the Chaplain and teachers, and one which is cordially sanctioned by the Superintendent, that the school shall assume as far as possible the character of a family,—that the discipline and instruction shall be such as shall secure the confidence of the pupils and develop the better feelings of their nature, and that in the provisions which shall be made from time to time for their comfort and improvement, something like a fitting substitute may be furnished for the genial influences of a home which many of these destitute and friendless children have never enjoyed. In this endeavor, as well as in all efforts for the moral and religious elevation of this community of the poor, we believe that we can rely upon your hearty sympathy and co-operation.

CHARLES F. FOSTER,

Chaplain and Teacher.